

A Pandering Public | JACK IN THE BOX Reopens in Colorado

Mike Stone
Fool's Gold Editor

On the corner of 6th and Colefax Avenue on Monday, November 12th, there was a commotion. This was no small time ruckus, but a huge line of cars and hungry patrons waiting for their first bite of Jack in the Box in Colorado. Car horns blew, people shoved shoulders in line, and money was changing hands for tacos, shakes, burgers, and fries.

Located in front of Home Depot, the new Jack in the Box was highly anticipated. "I thought it would be busy, but not this busy," explained Regional Vice President, Tom White. At maximum capacity, people packed the lobby and employees moder-

ated the line that extended out the door and around the building. Tom added, "There's been at least 150 people in here since we've opened."

For people driving on 6th Avenue, flashing blue and red lights may have been a distraction as a police cruiser sat in front of the restaurant. Patrol Sergeant Bill Miederhoff was called to the restaurant after a couple was fighting in the restaurant lobby over a taco. "It has been pretty crazy," noted Sergeant Miederhoff. "I keep asking people why they're here and they always say it's something about the tacos."

On opening night, the drive thru

had the same bad luck. Extended down the road in the turn lane were 22 cars patiently waiting just to order some burgers and tacos. Employees armed with baskets of "Jack Heads" offered waiting customers a decorative topper for their car's antenna. Car horns blew in rhythm not from impatience, but for celebration of the food to come.

Several Mines students have been watching the construction and operation of Jack in the Box for longer than they should. "As soon as I found out it was a Jack in the Box, I knew it was a good day," said Junior Matt Ross. "We saw some

cars going through the drive thru and thought it was open, but the restaurant was still gated."

"We were practicing," clarified Tom White. "We had employees circle the building over and over so we could improve before we opened." The practice worked well as employees were pumping out food as fast as people could order.

"I just sold \$250 of food in the last 5 minutes," noted cashier, Kaydee.

In the opinion of most, the res-

taurant couldn't have been busier.

With all this commotion, every reader must urge themselves to try Jack in the Box. Here are some things to note: the delicious tacos, the cold shakes, and the automated ordering system in the lobby. After some investigative reporting, this customer agrees that there really is something about the tacos.

The Jack in the Box dining room is open 7 days a week from 6am to 10pm and the drive thru is open until 1am. In the near future, the restaurant is rumored to be open 24 hours a day. Currently under construction, there is another Jack in the Box location at Arvada and Kipling which will be open in January.



RESTAURANT AND LOGO PHOTO: MIKE STONE / OREDIGGER

Renewable Energy Utilization in Iceland A Case to Follow for Other Countries?

Akira Rattenbury
Staff Writer

On November 14th, Icelandic renewable energy expert Bjorn Gunnarsson lectured on the successes of his country's renewable energy program, and presented his vision for the new School for Renewable Energy Science (RES) in Iceland.

Dr. Gunnarsson began by addressing the primary factors stimulating increased use of renewable energy. In recent years, renewable sources have demonstrated proven technology, vast potential, investor interest, and a strong demand at an attractive cost. While these factors are general, Dr. Gunnarsson stressed that renewable energy technology is "location sensitive." Each country must assess its capabilities, energy needs, and diversify accordingly. The new energy economies of tomorrow will "promote the application of a

mix of renewable energy sources."

Over \$38 billion was invested in new renewable energy capacity in 2005 mainly in wind, solar, and biofuel research, which are current research interests at CSM. Iceland, however, is geographically and geologically unique as a small island nation of 300,000 people located along the Mid-Atlantic Ridge in the Atlantic Ocean. The active volcanism provides an ideal setting for hydroelectric and geothermal energy.

Today, Iceland utilizes its vast natural energy potential to generate nearly 100% of its electricity from renewable water and geothermal sources. Dr. Gunnarsson empha-

sized that this success is no trendy fad: "In Iceland, we have been utilizing this resource for about 80 years." Current research seeks to further develop "low" temperature geothermal and deep geothermal drilling.

"Iceland utilizes its vast natural energy potential to generate nearly 100% of its electricity from renewable water and geothermal sources."

Dr. Gunnarsson also demonstrated Iceland's commitment to other renewable energy sources with its partnerships with industry such as Daimler Chrysler and Shell Hydrogen to produce a working hydrogen fuel-cell bus system in the capital of Reykjavik from 2001 to 2005. To reach Iceland's goal of becoming the "first country to be [powered] from all renewable energy sources," Dr. Gunnarsson

cited a new hydrogen economy as the key to cutting its fossil fuel use.

Because of Iceland's success, Dr. Gunnarsson also announced the formation of the new RES School. The private institution offers a 12 month intensive Master of Science program offered to roughly 35 students who have completed a B.Sc. degree in engineering or physical sciences. The course work focuses on geothermal, biofuel, hydroelectric, and hydrogen technologies, and will expand in coming years to include modules based on solar, wind, and wave energies.

Dr. Gunnarsson made an unprecedented announcement that the school will be providing two full scholarships to two students from CSM. CSM has entered a memorandum of understanding which opens the door to future student exchange, professor mobility, and collaboration to further renewable energy research.

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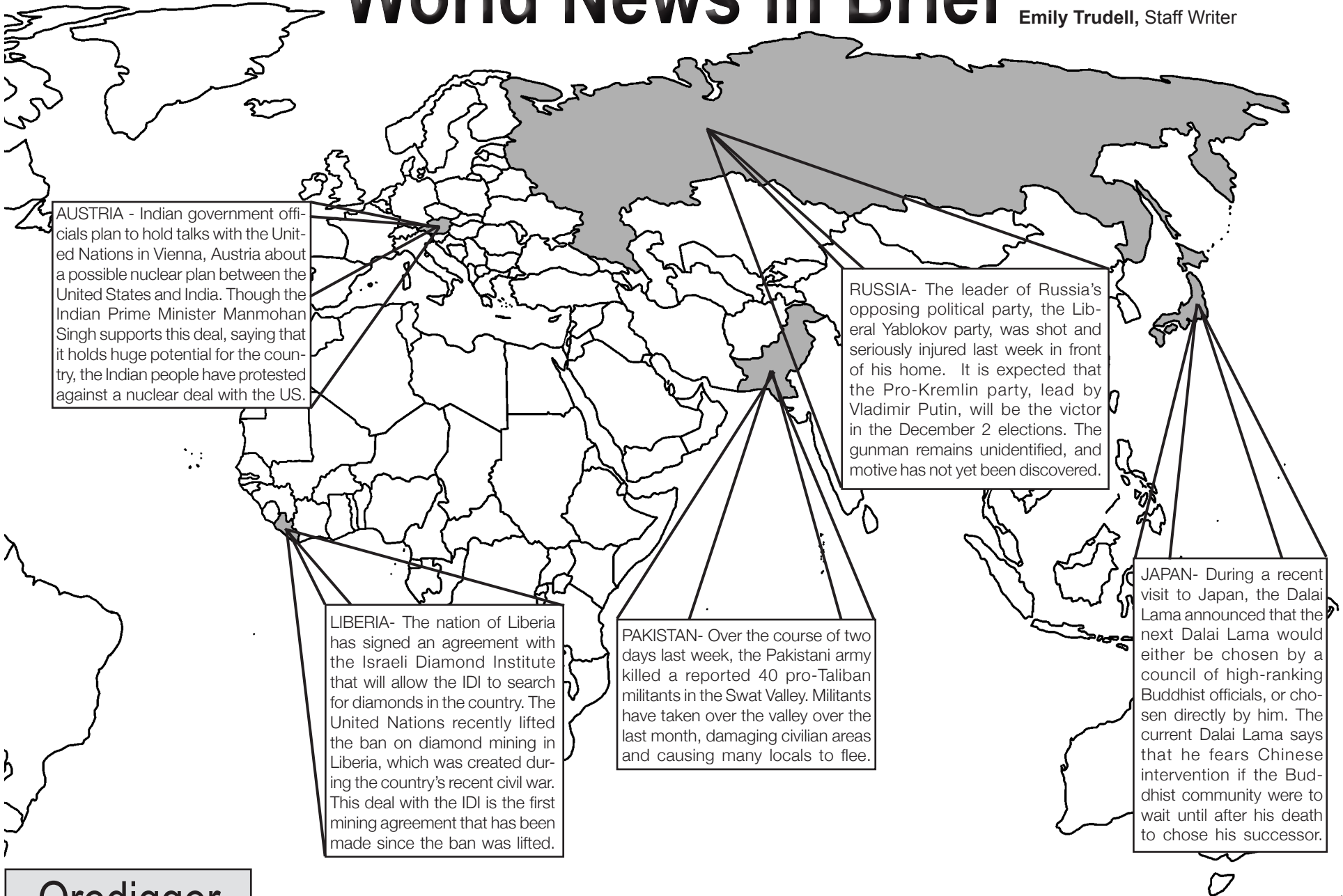
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World News in Brief

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Women in Engineering Calendar

Engineering Business Class and Mines Girls Team Up

Rachel Knuckles
Staff Writer

Last Monday, November 19th, the Qdoba across the street from the Colorado Mills Mall was packed with customers. They were not only enjoying the food, they were also supporting the release of the new Women in Engineering calendar by David Kultala and Zack Akin, two graduate students from CSM.

At the party there was a chance to buy the calendar along with t-shirts to promote the sale. Every woman that came in automatically got a raffle ticket, and two raffle tickets were given to each customer that purchased a calendar. These tickets had the possibility of winning prizes from the sponsors of the calendar, such as a year's supply of burritos from Qdoba. Other prizes included tickets to Avalanche and Nuggets games, and Qdoba merchandise.

David Kultala and Zack Akin created this calendar after going through an Engineering Business class in which they had to start up a mock company and sell a product. They chose to produce calendars. David Kultala says that his idea came from a similar calendar from another university, but rather than having the women partially

nude, Kultala wanted to portray the women as sophisticated -- and fully clothed. This was important to Kultala because "it was important

to portray [the women] in a classy way, especially in a male-dominated field." The calendar spread includes the G.P.A and major of each of the women, and their preferences in things such as food and sports.



This Week At Mines

Mines was honored in Time Magazine for its 100% placement of petroleum engineering majors last spring.

Mines football player Aaron Abel was mentioned in the Denver Post two weeks ago as the "leading scorer in the 119-year history of Colorado School of Mines football with 257 points."

In a memo to the Mines faculty last week, CSM President Dr. Myles "Bill" Scoggins announced that administrative leave will be extended to include Monday, December 24.

Governor Bill Ritter mentioned the research capabilities of CSM two weeks ago in his push to draw Canadian bioscience businesses to Colorado.

In accordance with standard policy, CSM Facilities Management shut down the campus chillers on November 15. Regardless of "unseasonable weather," they will not be restarted until April.

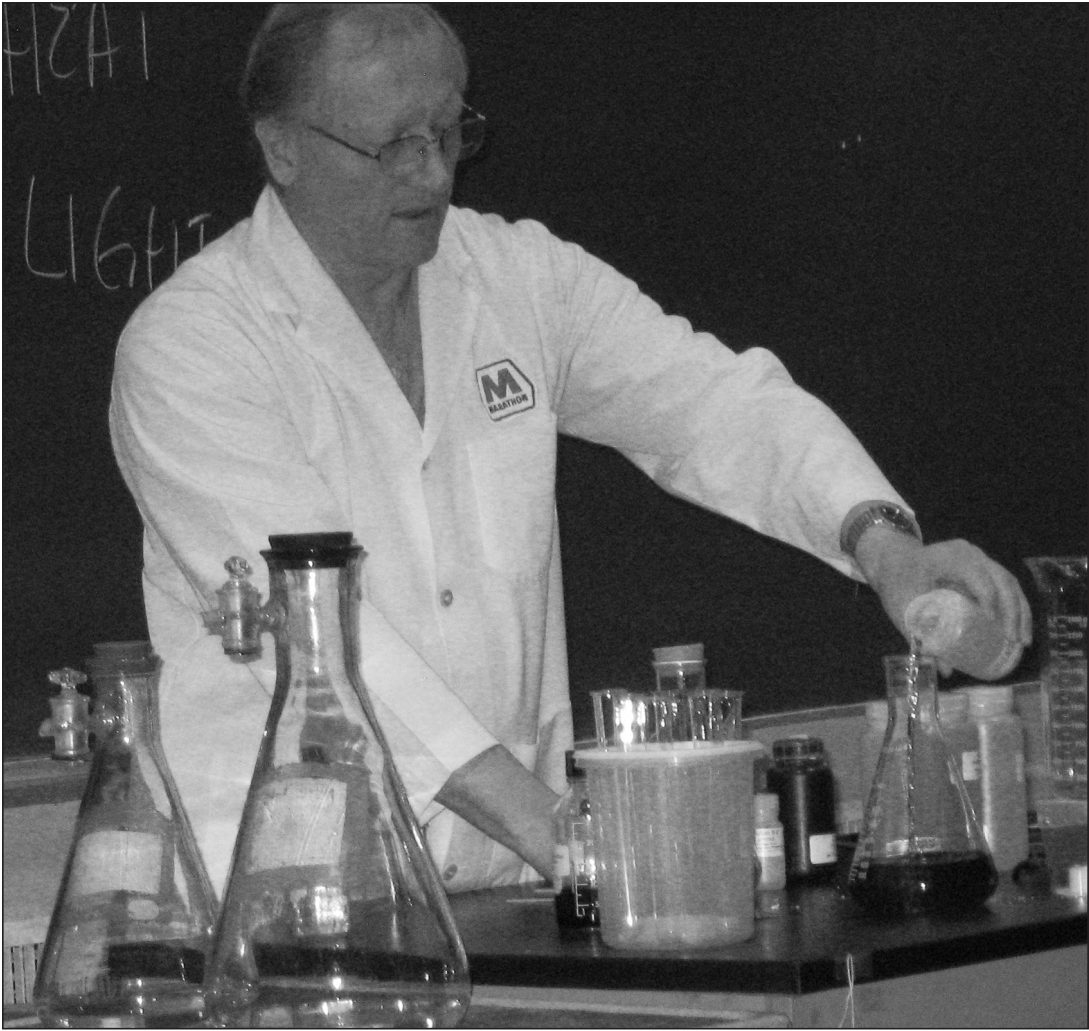
AVID Learners

Middle School Students Visit Mines: Chemistry Magic Show, Geology Museum, Campus Tours

Lily Giddings
Staff Writer

Last week, over one hundred middle school students in the AVID program visited the Mines campus. AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination; it is a program aimed at students who are part of under-represented minority groups and have the potential to be first-generation college attendees. The program is designed to motivate students from an early age and starts in elementary school. Students learn about the types of classes they need to take before they go to college and they learn the skills they will need to get into college. To this end, many schools that have the program set up visits to colleges, so that students can get excited about their college experience. On Thursday, November 15th, three local middle schools that feature the AVID program sent students to visit the Colorado School of Mines. Approximately 125 students visited the CSM campus from West Middle School in Cherry Creek, Powell Middle School in Littleton, and Noreast Academy Charter School. The schools took a tour of the Geology Museum, watched a presentation by Dr. Scott Cowley, of the Chemistry Department, and took a tour of campus, led by the student ambassadors.

Students were impressed by the campus, and were very engaged during the tours. Shelby Hollmaier, a sophomore student ambassador, was impressed with their questions and their enthusiasm. "They just kept asking questions, all throughout the tour. They were so excited about the campus," said Hollmaier. Dr. Cowley has been unofficially performing the "Magic Show" for several years, but this is the first year that it has officially organized by the Admissions Office. The students really enjoyed the presentation and were impressed by the idea that science could be so "cool!" Dr. Cowley explained the concepts behind his experiments and demonstrations, while the audience eagerly participated by answering his questions and trying to figure out what would happen. "The really great thing about this program is that kids start to dream big" says Sarah Andrews, of the Admissions Office. "The point of their visit is to get them ready to go into high school and take math and science classes so they can go to college." She also pointed out that it is important to CSM that we increase diversity, and working with the AVID program is one way to accomplish that goal. Next semester, more schools will be coming to visit Mines on March 20 and April 17.



LILY GIDDINGS / OREDIGGER
Chemistry Magic: Dr. Scott Cowley performed his chemistry magic show for the AVID students. It's fun and educational and students eagerly participated.

Golden Holiday Art Market

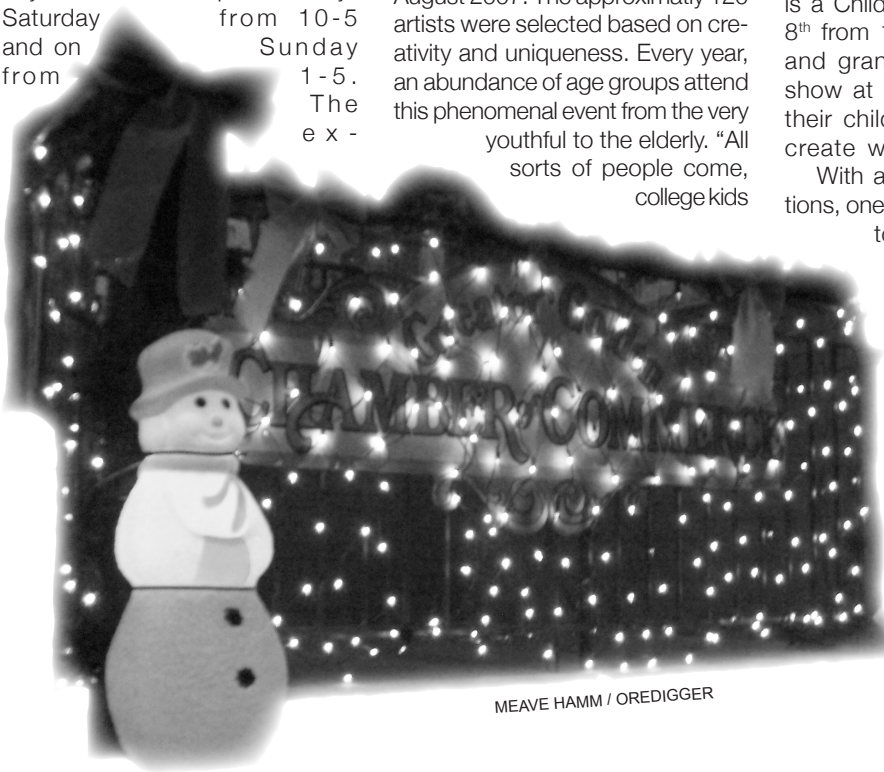
No Room for Grinch on Washington Ave and 15th

Fabian Brunetti
Staff Writer

Snow is starting to fall from the sky, carolers have begun passing by, stockings are hanging over the fire, but where to purchase holiday gifts? Don't bother with Colorado Mills, Cherry Creek, or Flatirons this year, stop by 15th and Washington for the Holiday Art Market. The Holiday Art Market is in its 33rd year of operation and is more magnificent than ever. This event is first and foremost a fundraiser for the art center, but also a depot for holiday lore. It is open Monday-Saturday from 10-5 and on Sunday from 1-5. The ex-

hibition includes approximately 120 artists from all over Colorado. This art market includes a diverse range of fine art, including, but not limited to stained glass, ornaments, paintings, jewelry, fiber art, kitchen glass, and kitchen tools. This event is free to everyone who wants a piece of the holiday pie. Make sure to shop early and often for unique holiday gifts for all of your friends, family and even that special Grinch on your list. This exceptional event is open until December 30th. The artists featured in this show brought their art to be judged in August 2007. The approximately 120 artists were selected based on creativity and uniqueness. Every year, an abundance of age groups attend this phenomenal event from the very youthful to the elderly. "All sorts of people come, college kids

come in right before winter break," said Mary Beth Beach, Operations Assistant. Beach works alongside Retail Manager, Mary Jane Butler, and Executive Director, Jennifer Ito. Offered on a daily basis, group tours attract a variety of patrons of the arts. On Sunday December 9th, from 12-1 p.m., come enjoy the sound of Baroque Folke Music while you shop around the beautiful Foothills Art Center. Once again, this performance and window shopping event is free to the public. Also, for all of the professors and alumni at Mines with children, there is a Children's Day on December 8th from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Parents and grandparents can tour the show at their own leisure, while their children and grandchildren create wonderful holiday gifts. With all of these enriching options, one cannot say bah-humbug to this annual event. They have ornaments for your eccentric chemistry teacher, a kitchen set for your RA, a painting for your girlfriend's obnoxious parents, and even a new stained glass window for Meyer Hall. These are just a few items to add to your shopping list. Make this year a keeper, by going to the Holiday Art Market.



MEAVE HAMM / OREDIGGER

New Panda Restaurant

Dine-In, Carry-Out, Delivery, Party Trays & Party Catering

- ***Buy 1 Entrée, Get the 2nd Free*****
(Every Sat. & Sun., from Noon to 9:00 PM, Dine-in & Pick-up, Dinner Portion Only)
- Buy 2 Entrée, Get the 2nd at Half Price, Or Get 20% Off From Your Total Bill**
(Every Weekday, Dine-in & Pick-up)
- **PARTIES OF 3 OR MORE MAY COMBINE THESE SPECIALS****
(Dine-in and Carry-Out Only, Students Must Show ID)
- For Example:
- Sesame Chicken (Lunch) is \$5.95 Menu **\$4.76 with 20% OFF**
 - Sesame Chicken (Dinner) is \$8.55 Menu **\$6.85 with 20% OFF**
 - An \$8.55 Entrée and a \$7.55 Entrée will **Cost \$16.10 Menu, \$12.33 with Mines Discount**

17732 S. Golden Rd.
(In Golden Village Shopping Center)
Phone: (303) 278-0060

Geek of the Week

...Mark Rosa, Sophomore: Physics

Satira Tajdin-Labib
Staff Writer

[Oredigger] What was life like in high school?

[Rosa] I was completely different. I was a jock who played football. I had a lot of friends and I went to prom three out of the four years. I hadn't become a nerd yet.

What are your favorite activities?

Anything to do with the outdoors, like skiing, hiking, snowboarding, and camping. But school is my favorite thing. I love to read, too. I try to read one book every two weeks.

How many gadgets do you own and what are they?

I own a lot. I have three calculators: my TI-83, TI-83 plus, and my HP-50G which is my pride and joy. Also, I have my laptop which is a tablet so I can write on it.

Do you consider yourself a geek? Why?

Yes, I do. Well, I go to Mines and I'm a Physics major. I say really dorky things. I have a 4.0! Also, I like to keep my earplugs in at all times over the weekend so I can maximize my studying. Oh, and I love classical music and chess.

What is the geekiest thing you have ever done?

For a total of five different times, I have watched all three

Lord of the Rings movies in a row, including trailers and features. Recently, I've been going to sleep at 7 o'clock every night, but maybe that just makes me an old woman. Also, all summer long I just studied Physics 2... because it was fun.

Do you have a geeky joke?

Why did the chicken cross the Mobius Strip? To get to the same side.

Geeky pick-up line?

This one is for chess players. Baby, will you be my queen and mate me with your knight moves?

What is your favorite class?

Physics 2, but my favorite class that I am taking right now is Partial Differential Equations because it's a mental puzzle.

What do you love and hate about math?

Eww, what do I hate? I like it so much, so I would have to say the only thing I hate is the fact that there are so many courses to take and I just can't take them all. I love math because it's the foundation of science and is so useful and fun. It exercises my mind.

What is your favorite thing about physics?

The Newtonian Synthesis, because I like to look at the stars and think to myself, "Hey, they have to obey the same laws I do." And I think that's pretty amazing.

Do you have any skills?

Yeah, I have this nerdy skill of being able to control my dreams.

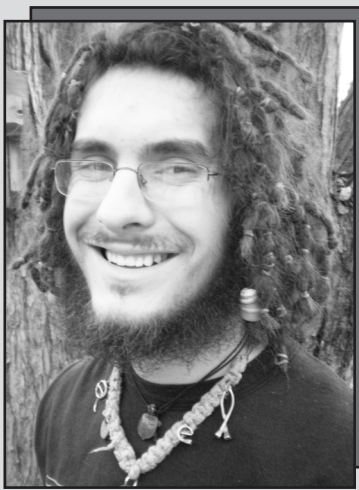
So I like to use it to study while I sleep. Just recently, I was solving partial differential equations in my sleep. It really helps me with tests.

Who is your hero?

Nicholai Tesla, he came up with the Tesla coil and was the mad scientist I would like to become.

What are your plans after you graduate?

I'd like to go to grad school to get my Ph. D, and do theoretical research, preferably on Quantum computers. But who knows? By then they might have them already.



SATIRA TAJDIN-LABIB / OREDIGGER

The Trio: Rosa owns three calculators, a TI-83, TI-83+, HP-50G; he also owns a Tablet PC, just in case.

Writing Center Expansion

Kevin Duffy
Content Manager

In the eyes of many on campus, the CSM Writing Center provides an invaluable resource for students looking to strengthen their communication skills. Faculty members of the Liberal Arts and International Studies department provide individualized mentoring sessions, where students receive intensive feedback on their personal writing endeavors.

After limited hours of operation in past semesters, the Writing Center has recently announced it will expand to a full-time schedule beginning in Spring 2008. Under the direction of LAIS professor and Writing Center Coordinator, Rose Pass, the Center's expansion comes after receiving increased monetary support from CSM administrators. The cause was heavily championed by Dr. Tom Boyd, the Dean of Graduate Studies.

To expand the Center, financial support was desperately needed. Realizing that graduate students utilized the Center on a consistent basis, Professor Pass sought out Dr. Boyd's support in funding the Center for full time operation. "I advocated for the funds from an institutional perspective and the value it brings to the school," explained Dr. Boyd in a recent interview. Dr. Boyd went on to confirm that "communication skills are fundamental to success."

According to Dr. Boyd, efforts to increase funding met no

resistance or push-back from other CSM administrators. "The request was well received and the need clearly identified," said Dr. Boyd. Throughout the process, Dr. Boyd worked closely with the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Nigel Middleton, to achieve final outcome of the proposal.

"Academic Affairs has blessed us with additional funding," Pass emphasized in an exclusive interview with The Oredigger. "This [funding] will usher an exciting new era," Pass added. "We will serve the needs of more writers on campus."

The additional funding also comes at a time when the Writing Center is attempting to incorporate more services to the array already available. According to Pass, "the writing center has something to offer for everyone in the Mines community; from your first NHV paper to your final dissertation." This includes a menu of services ranging from helping students brainstorm writing topics to mastering grammar and critiquing PowerPoint presentations to completing resumes.

The Writing Center has additionally undergone a physical upgrade in the process, with its new headquarters located in Stratton Hall 309. The room features additional workspace and a "bright, sunny interior to encourage thinking," Pass happily reported.

The expansion additionally brings benefit to International and ESL students. Both Pass and Dr. Boyd recognized this continuing benefit by commenting on the

level integration the center can bring to help ESL students achieve success. Emphasizing this collaboration, faculty sponsors of International Conversation Night, a campus group which allows international students to practice English, are also contributing members to the Writing Center. Therefore professors are able to intensively work with students on both there verbal and written communication.

"Down the road several years, I envision a multi-faced communications center, able to meet the demands of technical writing in the 21st century," Pass explained when asked where she saw the future of the writing center. Although this goal is several years away, Dr. Boyd and the rest of the administration agree that the Writing Center will continue to play an important role in the culture of the university.

"We owe a special thank you to Tom Boyd, Dean of Graduate Studies, for supporting us in the quest for new funding," Pass reiterated. For students interested in benefiting from the Writing Center call 303.273.3085 to schedule an appointment or email Rose Pass directly at rpass@mines.edu.



HILARY BROWN / OREDIGGER

The Reign of Musharraf

Martial Law Declared in Pakistan

Josh Elliott
Business Manager

In an attempt to secure re-election, the president of Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf, recently declared martial law. This move has further destabilized a region that already had its share of instability. To truly understand the nature of the declaration, it is necessary to examine Pakistan's history during the reign of General Musharraf.

In some ways, Pakistan's current state of affairs is the natural conclusion of events set into motion nearly a decade ago. Pervez Musharraf, the army chief and president of Pakistan, came to power in 1999 by ousting the democratically elected government of Nawaz Sharif. Sharif still leads an opposition party, the PML-N, from exile.

At the time, Sharif's government was tremendously inept and many Pakistanis supported Musharraf's move. Military coups of this nature were not unknown in Pakistan, which has seen several military dictatorships arrive after an inept civilian government.

In 2001, following the September 11th attacks against the World Trade Center, Musharraf aligned himself with President Bush's War on Terror, breaking the friendly ties that Pakistan had held with the Taliban in Afghanistan. Since that time, Musharraf has ingratiated himself to America and the West by opposing Islamic extremism in Pakistan.

Musharraf sent Pakistani troops into the Northwest Frontier Province – a region along the border with Afghanistan barely under the control of Islamabad – in an attempt to quell pro-Taliban fighters. This operation did not go well for the government in Islamabad, as Musharraf appeared to be taking orders from George W. Bush and the Pakistani military suffered fairly heavy casualties.

Musharraf also shut down the Red Mosque, whose clerics promoted a fundamentalist message that was both virulently anti-American and anti-Musharraf. The Red Mosque incident required a weeklong military siege of the Mosque in the heart of Islamabad, and resulted in the death of several civilians.

These types of actions were deeply unpopular with the average Pakistani, but earned the trust of Western nations; America alone has given billions of dollars in military aid as a result of Musharraf's friendliness to the War on Terror.

Even as Musharraf gained favor in the international community, Pakistanis became increasingly fed up with him. Musharraf came to power in 1999 promising that democracy would soon be restored, but as time passed this proposition seemed less and less likely.

To counter the growing dis-

content within parliament and the judiciary, Musharraf fired the Chief Justice of Pakistan's Supreme Court, Iftikhar Chaudhry, in an attempt to regain control of the court.

This move met fierce resistance from Pakistani lawyers, who demonstrated for months against the dismissal. Eventually, the remaining members of the Supreme Court decided that the dismissal was beyond the scope of Musharraf's authority and reinstated Chaudhry.

Under Chaudhry's renewed leadership, the Supreme Court determined that Nawaz Sharif, the prime minister deposed by Musharraf in 1999, could return to Pakistan despite a standing ten-year exile agreement. However, upon Sharif's return to Pakistan, he was immediately re-arrested by Musharraf's forces and deported to Saudi Arabia once again.

All the while, Musharraf was negotiating with another exiled prime minister, Benazir Bhutto, leader of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP). Bhutto was in self-imposed exile to avoid charges of corruption stemming from her time as prime minister in the late 1980's and early 1990's.

It was thought that the proposed deal would allow Musharraf to be reelected as president with the support of the PPP, so long as Musharraf agreed to give up his position as army chief by year's end.

After Bhutto's return, Musharraf had himself reelected in military uniform

See "Of Pakistan and Lesser Evils" Follow-Up Editorial on Page 8

by Parliament. This reelection was probably in violation of Pakistan's constitution, which both forbids the president holding military office and requires that a president be elected only after a new Parliament has been elected through a general election.

The Supreme Court was due to rule on the legality of this process, but on the eve of the ruling Musharraf declared martial law and fired most of the Supreme Court. The declaration of martial law can be looked upon as a second coup, for it also entailed the arrest of many opposition politicians, including Benazir Bhutto.

Pakistan is now in a state of political chaos, stemming largely from the dictatorial tendencies of the man leading the country, the ineptitude of the opposition, and the partial complicity of the international community.

The situation in Pakistan has not reached a conclusion as of this time. It remains to be seen if the populace of Pakistan will remain peaceful, or if the opposition parties will seek to escalate the conflict further.

Additionally, though many in the international community, including the United States, have condemned Musharraf's declaration of martial law, it is unknown if any further action will be taken. Pakistan will likely remain in limbo for some time to come.

Sustainability at Mines



Colorado School of Mines Mission Statement: “CSM has dedicated itself to responsible stewardship of the earth and its resources... We believe that the world faces a crisis in balancing resource availability with environmental protection and that CSM and its programs are central to the solution of that crisis.”

Sustainability Committee

The Sustainability Committee became official with the handbook committee approval of the bylaws and President Scoggin's blessing this year. (<http://www.mines.edu/academic/sustain/index.html>) In 2005, a group of campus administrators, faculty, classified staff, and students approached former CSM President Trefny to request the formation of an ad hoc committee to address sustainability on campus. Now official with both *ex officio* and appointed members from across the campus, the Sustainability Committee has the mission to “provide vision and advice to the campus community in evolving all aspects of CSM activities, instructional and operational, towards sustainability.” The meetings of the Sustainability Committee are open and participation from the entire campus community is encouraged.

Climate Action Days (planned by the CSM Sustainability Committee) made its first annual appearance as a campus wide symposium open to the general public and Golden Community, discussing the many actions CSM students and graduates may take to help slow climate change. The event culminated with the EarthDay celebration and was sponsored by NREL, Colorado Renewable Energy Society (CRES), Vail, the Rocky Mountain Institute, and many others. (<http://www.climateactiondays.mines.edu/>)

Jon Meuser, Akira Rattenbury, Natalie Wagner
Guest Writers

Sustainability Research

CSM currently receives millions of dollars to fund sustainability-related research goals. CSM joined the Colorado Renewable Energy Collaboration (CSM, CU, CSU, NREL) and Colorado's political leaders spoke at the kick-off (Gov. Bill Ritter, U. S. Senators Ken Salazar and Wayne Allard, and Congressmen Mark Udall and Ed Perlmutter). President Scoggin's words regarding the development were: “Colorado School of Mines fully commits its worldwide expertise in the areas of earth, energy, materials and the environment to this critical partnership, which will make the Front Range the nation's center of renewable energy technology development and commercialization.”

CSM is also a partner of the Colorado Center for Biofuels and Biorefining (C2B2) launched earlier this year. C2B2 is a public-private partnership that merges millions of research dollars from industries like big oil and chemical with renewable biofuel and biomaterials projects at the partner institutions (CSM, CU, CSU, NREL). Two CSM proposals were funded in the first grant cycle: a project to integrate the production of bio-plastics from plant cellulose in a proposed thermo-chemical plant led by John Dorgan; and the creation and characterization of an algae strain collection for biofuels led by NREL's Al Darzins in collaboration with Mines professors, Matt Posewitz and John Spear. CSM also boasts the only fuel cell center in Colorado, established last year in collaboration with the Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation (OEMC).

Current and Future Efforts

Efforts are underway to see CSM become much more green and sustainable. Simple sustainable practices which require relatively little time and capital to pursue should be a primary goal. More sustainable practices can both boost CSM's reputation as a peer leader while reducing costs. “Low hanging fruit” such as installing motion-sensor or timer-controlled lighting within academic buildings and facilities is a great first step (these systems can be found in many academic buildings and the new Athletic Center). This saves energy as well as money.

CSU Fort Collins is currently investing foundation money in a wind turbine farm that will provide clean, renewable energy to the campus while providing financial returns on excess power sold. Engaging CSM engineering students in similar solar and/or wind energy demonstration projects could both provide an educational opportunity and clean power for our campus. Water could be conserved by the installation of flush-less urinals and by installing landscaped features, which require little irrigation over placing sod.

Mandating sustainable purchasing is a path many universities currently pursue. CSM can improve its purchasing impacts by buying supplies which reduce landfill waste and energy use - specifically, the purchase of recycled paper and compostable bioplastics. Requiring food vendors to purchase more local produce and biodegradable utensils cuts transportation energy use and can provide valuable compost material.

Composting within campus eateries would signify a substantial shift towards a more sustainable campus. The Recycling Senior Design team projected the Slate Café could divert 92% of its waste from landfills if composting was implemented. Unfortunately, no commercial vendors exist in close proximity to CSM to make this economically feasible. Hopefully, as the city of Golden progresses with its own sustainability initiatives, composting can become an integral aspect of the CSM campus.

Summary

There are three entities that handle waste at CSM currently:

	EHS	Facilities Management	Student Life
Recycling	Academic Buildings	None	Selective in Student Center, dorms
Trash	None	Academic Buildings	Student Center, dorms

Facilities Management handles landfill waste from CSM academic buildings. This means all non-recycled items you throw away within academic buildings are collected and hauled off to landfills.

Student Life handles some of the recycling and all of the landfill waste generated within the Student Center, Recreation Center, and on-campus housing including Greek housing.

The Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) department is responsible for recycling in academic buildings. EH&S does not offer commingled-container recycling (aka: single stream), but does recycles aluminum, paper, cardboard, #1 and #2 plastics co-mingled in newspaper recycling containers, and hard-to-recycle items (HTRI).

In 2006, EHS diverted 41 tons of office paper, 713 pounds of aluminum and several hundred pounds of other materials. Though there is still a considerable opportunity to increase recycling while decreasing waste management costs. Last year, CSM students summarized the findings of the 2005 Recycling Senior Design group in a “white paper” describing how CSM could save money and increase recycling by combining all waste management under a single administrative unit (currently three budgets – Facilities Management, Student Life, and EHS) was presented to the campus reorganization committee. With the potential for over half of the waste currently being land-filled to be recycled, Facilities Management would receive the biggest financial incentive for better waste-diversion through a comprehensive recycling program. Such financial savings have been demonstrated by Fort Lewis College (Durango, CO), a public college about the size of CSM (4,000 students), which saved \$13k yr⁻¹ by decreasing the frequency of roll-off pickups of trash, in cooperation with the Colorado Campus Recycling Network. However, since currently recycling and waste management at CSM are in different budgets, the fiscal benefit to the school as a whole cannot be realized.

The proposal suggests three streams of all waste on campus – co-mingled recyclables, waste, and hard-to-recycle items like computer monitors and ink-jet cartridges. With this envisioned system, every trash can on campus could be complimented with a co-mingled recycling bin, paid for an unutilized \$10k Lockheed Martin grant for recycling containers on campus. Currently, Engineers for a Better World, EarthWorks, and the Student Council on Sustainability have been collecting petition signatures for improved campus waste management to let the CSM administration know that recycling is important to students, faculty and staff.

It should be clear to any objective scientist or engineer that human requirements currently depend on the depletion of finite resources at unsustainable rates. Many forecast that the strains of this predicament will be clearly evident in the lives of students attending CSM today. Thankfully, sustainability education and practice is alive on the CSM campus with campus entities taking part. As incentive for these activities continues to grow, we can only expect to see these activities continue to grow in parallel with CSM maintaining its reputation as a leader in the management of the world's resources.

A good step forward would include President Scoggin's signature on the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's (AASHE) American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment, enabling CSM to join the other 434 schools around the country in a pledge to act against furthering climate change. This initiative encourages institutes of higher education to develop a plan to become carbon neutral, and would fit well with the other effort occurring already at CSM.

Student Involvement

Students can become engaged in sustainability through the Sustainability Committee, in the classroom, and through campus clubs engaged in the topic. The many aspects of sustainability in engineering are addressed through many courses in LAIS. Also, Prof. Masami Nakagawa (Mining Engineering) has spearheaded a new graduate-level seminar course, MNGN 598 – Introduction to Sustainability in Spring 2008. Three student clubs on campus are currently engaged in efforts to improve campus sustainability including Engineers for a Better World, Earthworks, and the Student Council on Sustainability. Last year, members from these clubs worked on publicizing the vote for the Intermodal Transportation Fee and the mandate for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification of all student-supported construction.

The LEED certification program is a Green Building Rating system that “encourages and accelerates global adoption of sustainable green building and developing practices.” (<http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CMSPageID=222>) The CTLM building on campus was designed to be the 1st LEED certified building in Colorado but fell short due to changes in the requirements, and therefore contains many energy saving innovations. Additionally, the new Petroleum Institute building that is slated for construction will be LEED Silver certified.

Starting last year, student involvement in sustainability at CSM is celebrated by the Sack's Award, which recognizes a graduating CSM student that has made significant efforts in environmental sustainability with an award ceremony and \$500 scholarship.

Some may be surprised that students have been engaged in “sustainability” at Mines long before it was a buzzword. Many students are probably aware of the Earth Day event put on by EarthWorks for many years. But few may know that for about 16 years students and student groups have facilitated in the pick-up and recycling of various items on campus. For example, EarthWorks routinely collects and recycles transparencies - students have been gathering the filled recycling containers and moving them to the appropriate collection dumpsters to be municipally processed.

But recycling goes beyond just plastic and aluminum. Students, who purchase things from second hand stores like Good Will, regularly recycle things like clothes, shoes, bicycles, and furniture. Additionally, every year there is a large ‘Yard Sale’ on Kafadar Commons. This is generally to help new students gather some life necessities like chairs, bicycles, bookshelves, and lamps, but is another example of small scale recycling that has positive impacts of personal budgets as well as quality of life.

Online Lab Reports Wiki Technology Enters Physics Laboratory Curriculum

Ricky Walker
Staff Writer

In case you needed more evidence that wikis are taking over the world, the CSM website has become a home to a wiki page called ‘Physiki.’ Many classes are currently using this wiki to store information about the class and assignments.

However, while the wiki already exists, Dr. Kowalski has started to use this wiki to do more than just store information about his class. Rather, in his PHGN 315 class, he is using the wiki to have students turn in lab reports. Seem like a crazy idea?

Perhaps it is not as crazy as it sounds. The benefits of turning in labs through a wiki end up being substantial.

The most obvious benefit is the ease of collaboration among lab partners. Rather than spending hours fighting with incompatible versions of Microsoft Word, the students are able to see the most updated version of the lab online while it is being hosted by a reliable CSM server. In addition to ease of collaboration, the wiki architecture supports the use of LaTeX, which allows for formulas to be easily

incorporated into the lab reports.

Dr Kowalski stated his opinion via email that “one advantage of doing this from my perspective is I have a history of who did what. I just click on a history tab and can look at who made each modification.”

Dr. Kowalski is not the only one who likes this new idea. When asking several students currently in the class what they thought of the system, most were very pleased with the new idea.

One student stated that “the system was great. If I had five minutes I could go edit some previous writing or put down some new ideas.”

While wiki labs have advantages, there is a very small downside. Without limiting access to the lab pages, anyone in the class can go and read what others have written about the same lab.

In addition to that, figuring out who did the lab at the last minute becomes much easier for the professor. However, despite these very small disadvantages, the system is a sound method of having students submit their labs.

Will wiki labs take over the lab report community at Mines? Probably not, but don't be surprised if you see wiki labs becoming more popular in the years to come.

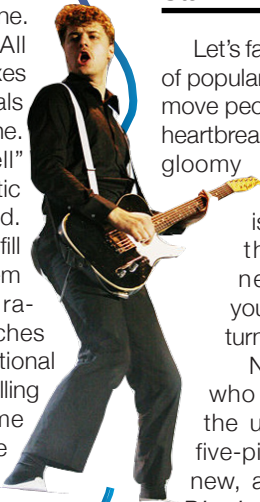
Bad News From the Bar

Colorado's Ride Your Bike a National Success

Tim Weilert
Staff Writer

In recent years, the Colorado music scene has seen the nationwide success of several local groups, a testament to the hard working musicians living in the state. Fort Collins band Ride Your Bike recently released their album **Bad News From The Bar** on independent label Deep Elm Records. The record is a big step forward both lyrically and musically, when compared to Ride Your Bike's earlier EP **They've Got Plans**. Lead singer/songwriter Mike Getches tells the story of two childhood friends, their falling out, and eventual realization of what is truly important in life. As far as instrumentation and overall sound quality go, **Bad News From The Bar** sounds fantastic. Rather than sticking to one specific instrument pattern, Ride Your Bike experiments with a variety of strings, horns, percussion, and keyboards. Everything sounds clear and mixes together well. Getches sings in a distinct tone, some-

thing that sets Ride Your Bike apart from many pop-indie bands on the national scene. The first track, "We All Have Our Own Shoes," mixes guitars, strings, and vocals to establish a confident tone. "This Car Is Hot As Hell" shifts from simple acoustic parts into a full band sound. Upbeat distorted guitars fill "So If We," a rock anthem that has potential as a radio single. Lyrically, Getches avoids unnecessary emotional overtones, but sticks to telling the story. There are some great lines such as, "You're smart like the fish that stays off the hook," a lyric that appears in "Sense of Things." Overall, Ride Your Bike has created a record that is unique and shows that the Colorado music scene still embraces quality. **Bad News From The Bar** is available at <http://www.myspace.com/rideyourbike> and <http://www.deepelm.com>



COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
Pelle Almquist: Lead singer for The Hives

Arrogant Black and White a Departure

The Hives Release High Energy, Cocky New Album

Charlie Frost
Staff Writer

Let's face it. There are plenty of popular rock acts today that move people with their tales of heartbreak, angst, or any other gloomy subject. However, if that kind of thing isn't your cup of tea, there's some good news to share with you. The Hives have returned with a new album. Now, for those of you who are unfamiliar with the underrated Swedish five-piece act, the Hives' new, arrogantly-titled **The Black and White Album** is a great place to start. While their two previous major label efforts focused on a gritty garage rock sound, the Hives have taken a risk here on the new batch of songs by recruiting big name pop producers (including Pharrell Williams from the Neptunes and N.E.R.D.)

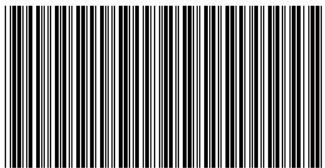
to streamline the sounds of their already-catchy riffs and hooks. The result is a fabulous collection of high energy songs that sound polished and accessible, all while staying true to their rock roots that made them big in the early 2000s. The crazy Swedes come storming out of the gate with "Tick Tick Boom," a rocking number with a distorted guitar riff that never lets up. From there on out, the album only features two moments that could be considered "mellow." The first comes about on the slow and somewhat creepy "A Stroll Through Hive Manor Corridors," a minimalist track that features a keyboard and electric drums. The second "mellow" cut, "Puppet on a String," also features very few instruments and lets the audience know that the band is more prone to experiment with their songwriting these days. The upbeat tunes also tend to wander into previously uncharted territory for the band (in a good way). "T.H.E.H.I.V.E.S." has the band breaking out the funk shortly after offering a dose

of shiny pop on "Won't Be Long." There are some rock fans that seek a deep message within their music, something within the songwriting that makes a profound statement. Well, if that's what you're looking for on the Hives' new disc, keep glancing through the new release rack of fall albums. Pelle Almquist, the lead singer of the band (who is sometimes compared to Mick Jagger), belts out cocky and demeaning lyrics throughout the set, which adds to the showy, fun-loving nature of the band. Keep an eye out for a jab at all of those emo kids during "Well All Right!" which offers the priceless line: "Everyone's a loser in the modern world/Look at all the sad and gloomy little boys and girls." And with that, we can clearly see the band looking down upon the majority of modern pop-rock bands seen on today's scene. For once, here is a band that lives up to their cockiness (even if it is a little tongue-in-cheek). The Hives have released one of the best rock records of 2007 and you need to get out there and check it out.

Hitman

Greg Smith
Staff Writer

How do you know when a videogame franchise moves from cool to 100% pure Columbian awesome? When Hollywood takes notice. Acclaimed developer Eidos has given the gaming world four **Hitman** titles and has created one of the most successful action franchises of all time. **Hitman** the movie is like the video game: not for everyone. I liked it because I love anything to do with high-class assassins or thieves. There is almost something missing, like that terrible movie **Smokin' Aces**. **Smokin' Aces** could have been so awesome, it had a great idea, but the execution of the plot was messy. **Hitman's** hole is not so obvious, though. In retrospect, I think that the problem was that the actor (Timothy Olyphant) who played the main hitman, agent 47, was too young. In the video games, he was in his thirties, while in the movie he is no more than twenty. I'm not usually a purist who needs to stick exactly to the settings of the game or book that a movie is based off of, (hence **based off of**) but in this case it changes the character. He seems almost nervous and at times I was very aware that I was watching an actor (not a good thing). The story itself, though, is original and **somewhat** thought out, with a cool ending. It is a fun flick, with action, cool gadgets, exotic locales and oh yes, a genetically enhanced assassin. My overall rating: three stars out of five.



COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
The Hitman's Barcode: True enough to the game, but the lead actor might be too young.

Kafadar Statue Explained

Mines Students Have Their Own Interpretations

Jake Rezac
Staff Writer

The statue on the eastern edge of Kafadar Commons is a mystery to many Mines students. Three pillars – one stone triangular prism, one Roman column, and one large granite boulder – all lean in towards each other in this ambiguous structure. Despite its mystery, many students find the center of the statue a good place in which to read or do homework; someone is there almost anytime of day in good weather. But what is this large structure, important enough to be lined up perfectly with Guggenheim Hall and



the center sidewalk in Kafadar – reminiscent of the arrangement of the Arc de Triomphe, Champs-Elysees, and the great Obelisk in Paris? What does the structure have to do with Mines? What does the artist say it means? John T. Young, of Seattle, Washington, made the structure, "Of Earth and Man," in 1989. Carol Chapman, Special Assistant to the President, paraphrased the artist's words on the structure, saying, "The sculpture represents the three stages of technology: Stone Age, Classical, and Modern. It was commissioned for Colorado's Art in Public Places program. According to Chapman, through this program "1% of state capital construction appropriations are set

aside to be spent on public art." Other people have interpreted Young's sculpture differently, however. Sophomore Andrew Perdue said "the sculpture seems to tie in all the areas Mines focuses in – nature, represented by the granite block, civilization, represented by the column, and technology, represented by the angular stone." Freshman Andrew Fager agrees, with one small addition – "the center of the circle is almost a shrine. Whether it's a spiritual shrine or a shrine to technology and civilization, or something completely different, I'm not sure. However, the circular middle and the three objects, which come in like rays to the sky, remind me of a shrine." Whatever the true meaning is, (after all, an artist's opinion of his own work is certainly not definitive) one thing's for sure: "Of Earth and Man" is a very intriguing sculpture which strikes debate and deep thought each time it is passed by a new student or visitor to Mines.

International Celebration of Life

David Sommers
Staff Writer

A whiff of smoke, the heat of crowded bodies. I knew I missed this feeling. Amidst the people I made my way, a push in this direction, a shove in that, like being on a crowded train in Poland. On Saturday, November 17, CSM held its annual International Day. Students from around the world came to represent their countries and to offer a taste of home. It was ecstasy for the hungry; one was sorely mistaken if he planned on not eating. With food from Oman, Nigeria, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Austria, Germany, Thailand, Malaysia, China, Korea, Spain, Saudi Arabia, and India, just to name a few, students were bombarded by a plethora of smells and tastes. After the food sharing, the international community displayed a variety of cultural song, dance and fashion. Students heard the ancient melodies of China and saw both the traditional and the modern dance of India. What followed was a medley of dance and music from Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, Saudi Arabia, and Trinidad and Tobago, each celebrating life and history according to traditions passed down through the ages of their country. To end the night, representatives from India, Kazakhstan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Arab Emirates, exhibited the fashion and dress of their homes. International Day was an event of differences and unity, a mutual and open celebration of the past and the cultures that make the world an interesting place. Moreover, it was an opportunity to celebrate life in all its facets and forms, to get a brief glimpse of the world through the eyes of so many.

COOKING CORNER

Chocolate Chip Tofu Cookies

Prep Time: 20 min
Baking Time: 20 min

- Wet Ingredients
- 1/2 cup canola oil
 - 2 eggs
 - 1 package (14-16 oz) tofu (soft, medium, firm, or silken should all work)
 - 1/2 cup applesauce (optional)
 - 1 cup sugar
 - 1 cup oats

- Dry Ingredients
- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
 - 1/2 tsp baking soda
 - 1/2 tsp baking powder
 - 1/2 tsp salt
 - 1/2 cup cocoa powder
 - 1/2 tsp each: cinnamon, cloves, allspice (optional)
 - 1 cup chocolate chips

- * Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- * Combine dry ingredients on a paper plate.
- * Blend oil, eggs, applesauce (if using), and sugar in a large bowl. Beat for 2 minutes on medium speed. Add tofu and oats, beat until blended. Add all the dry ingredients, beat on low until combined.
- * Drop batter by tablespoon onto greased cookie sheets, bake for 20 minutes.
- * Don't let the tofu stop you from trying this recipe – you can't taste it – because these cookies make for a great breakfast or snack on the run. My mom made these for my brothers and me when we were kids, and we have always loved them. They also freeze well, and you can microwave them on defrost until thawed. You can also freeze the dough, if you form the cookies first, and then just place them on a greased cookie sheet and bake them for about 25 minutes.

~ Sara Post, Copy Editor

Orediggers Make Dixie Rotary Bowl

Team Set to Face Off Against Western Oregon in Utah

Matthew Pusard
Staff Writer

With a 6-2 record in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (7-4 overall), the CSM Oredigger football team has been invited to play in the 2007 Dixie Rotary Bowl in St. George, Utah. Mines will face off against the Western Oregon University Wolves (8-2 overall) in the bowl game on Saturday, December 1st at noon.

This is the 22nd annual Dixie Rotary Bowl. The bowl takes its name from the St. George Rotary Club and the local college, Dixie State College of Utah. It originally started off as a showcase for the top teams in the National Junior College Athletic Association, but started the transition to Division II Football in 2006. It now stands as a bowl game for the best teams out of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and Great Northwestern Athletic Conference that did not receive a Division II playoff bid.

Both schools ended the regular season strong. After starting out 1-3, the Orediggers won 6 of their last 7 contests to secure a winning record for the 6th time in 7 seasons. The Wolves come

into this contest riding a 4 game winning streak, capped off by a 64-0 thrashing of Humboldt State.

CSM comes into this game boasting an aggressive defense that excels in penetrating the offensive line. The team boasts 55 sacks on the season, most in the nation, as well as 89 tackles for loss and 11 blocked kicks. Western Oregon comes into the game with a mix of stringent defense and potent offense, scoring twice as much as they let up over the course of the season (302 points to 146).

The last time CSM was in the postseason was in 2004 after finishing the regular season with a perfect record and a quarterback, Chad Friehauf, who threw for a Division II record 4,646 yards. Friehauf was later awarded the Harlon Hill Trophy, the Division II equivalent of the Heisman Trophy, and received a brief stint with the Denver Broncos during the 2004 preseason. Mines was eliminated from the playoffs that year in the second round by Pittsburgh State.

This is the first time Mines and Western Oregon have met on the gridiron. Mines will be wearing their home uniforms for the contest.

Athlete Spotlight

Melinda Bartel, Staff Writer

Nicole Leeper is a senior Middle on the Mines Volleyball team. She holds the CSM record for the highest kill percentage, and she is 6th for block assists.

Leeper is one of two seniors on the team. She has started all four years. One of her fondest memories of playing at CSM was making it the farthest Mines ever has in the NCAA tournament her sophomore year.

Leeper went to high school in Brighton, Colorado, where she played all 4 years. She was on Varsity the last 3 years, and she was All Conference her sophomore, junior, and senior year. Her junior year she was second team All State, and as a senior she was first

team All State. She said the highlight of her high school career was being 3rd in State her junior year.

"I had a great experience with the team and it was nice to get to play after a hard day of school. It has been a huge part of my life," said Leeper.

She is working on her degree in Petroleum engineering and she plans to graduate next December. After Mines, she hopes to play in some doubles tournaments and hopefully coach a high school volleyball team.



MELINDA BARTEL / OREDIGGER



MELINDA BARTEL / OREDIGGER

Aaron Abel is a senior kicker on the Mines football team. He recently broke the CSM record for the all time lead scorer.

"Aaron has displayed great leadership for our team throughout his career. He always acts in a first class manner on and off the field," said Head Coach Bob Stitt.

Abel has been playing football since he was in junior high. He went to high school at Cheyenne East, where he also played soccer.

He was recruited to Mines and has started all

four years. He was All-Conference his first 3 years, and received an Honorable Mention for this past season.

Abel said one of the highlights of his career was during the Fort Lewis game earlier this season, the game was tied and he kicked a field goal in the last three seconds to win 25-22.

"He handles the pressures of kicking very well and our team has been able to count on him to make the big kick when we need it. We could very well be a sub .500 team this year without Aaron," said Stitt.

Abel's record is a 50 yard field goal, which he kicked against Western New Mexico. He is working on his degree in Mining Engineering and he plans to graduate in May.

Denver Nuggets Have Lofty Expectations

Can They Live Up to the Hype?

Matthew Pusard
Staff Writer

The Denver Nuggets came into the 2007-2008 season with high hopes for the season. Carmelo Anthony, Allen Iverson, and JR Smith have all come out and said that 60 wins are a realistic outcome for the team this year. 60 wins, as in 6 more wins than the franchise record for a single season. 60 wins, as in more wins than all but 2 teams in the NBA last season. 60 wins is a pretty difficult milestone to achieve, but the Nuggets may just be able to pull it off this year.

Star SF Carmelo Anthony came into the season coming off an impressive stint on Team USA where he averaged a team high 21.2 points per game en route to a 10-0 record in the FIBA Americas Championship. Already one of the best pure scorers in the league, Carmelo said that the stint with Team USA renewed his commitment to playing good defense. While this commitment has not manifested in his stat line so far this season, Carmelo is still providing a potent offensive punch with 25.5 points per game through 11 games, good for fifth best in the league.

Playing beside Anthony is Allen Iverson, playing his first full season with the team. While critics were skeptical at first about his potential to play on a team where he was not the primary scorer, Iverson has not caused any problems yet. Iverson, nicknamed "The Answer," is currently 8th in the NBA with 24.5 points per game and is playing unselfishly at point guard with 7.5 assists per game, 9th in the league. Iverson and Anthony are easily the highest scoring one-two punch in the league currently. However, offense for this squad has never been the issue. They are currently second in the league in scoring with 107.66 points per game, just a half point behind the Phoenix Suns.

Marcus Camby leads up the defensive effort for the Nuggets. While the team has a reputation for being lazy on the defensive end, Camby is making a valiant effort at compensating for sometime sluggish play by his teammates. Camby is the reigning Defensive Player of the Year and is currently statistically

better than last season with an average of 15.3 rebounds per game and 3.4 blocks per game,

"It will likely be an uphill battle for the Nuggets on their quest, but with a core that has stayed intact from last season and a favorable schedule, Carmelo and the gang may just get their wish."

both tops in the league.

Despite Camby's efforts, the fate of the Nuggets depends on the play of two men: Kenyon Martin and Nene. Both men have been battling injuries for the past few seasons. Nene got healthy late last season and helped the Nuggets enjoy 10 wins in their last 11 regular season games. Nene was also able to provide an imposing force during their first round playoff matchup and he helped keep it competitive,

but it proved not to be enough to stop the eventual champions, the San Antonio Spurs. To be able to meet their goals and go far in the playoffs, the Nuggets will also need Kenyon Martin to be healthy.

Martin has been regarded by some in the NBA as having the worst contract in the league. He is currently making over \$13 million per season, but he is also the proud owner of 2 surgically reconstructed knees.

He's had microfracture surgery on both of his knees. Microfracture surgery is intended to help restore knee cartilage, but it has produced mixed results. In the NBA, about half of the players who have had the surgery have returned to normal playing condition while the other half never played the same again. It is too early to tell how Martin will respond, but the Nuggets are being careful with him so as

not to allow him to reinjure himself.

The strongest asset to Denver's quest for 60 wins might be their division, however. They have strong competition within the division from the Utah Jazz, but the rest of the teams from within are currently in a rebuilding process. Seattle and Minnesota both traded their best players, Ray Allen and Kevin Garnett respectively, to the Boston Celtics this past offseason and Portland had the first overall pick in the most recent NBA draft.

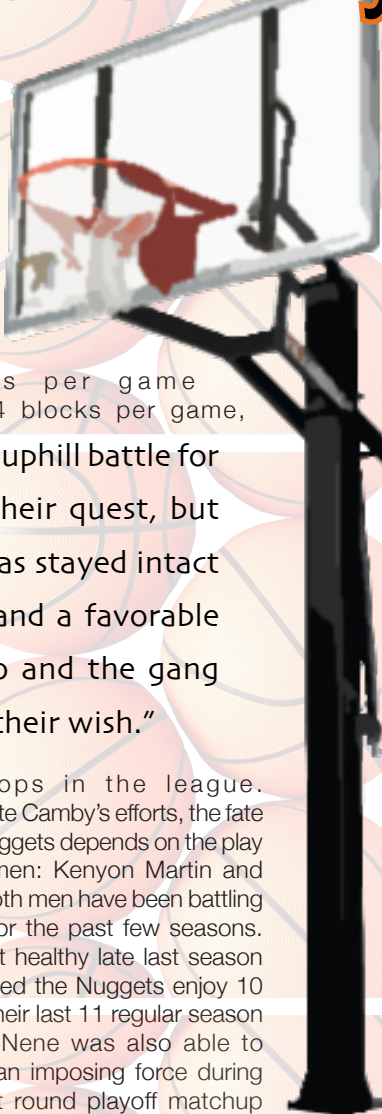
This adds up to easy pickings for the Nuggets who will play each of these teams 4 times this season, making for 12 easier games for the team. If the Nuggets take full advantage of these games, 60 wins becomes much more attainable. It will likely be an uphill battle for the Nuggets on their quest, but with a core that has stayed intact from last season and a favorable schedule, Carmelo and the gang may just get their wish.

This Week's Games:

Tue. 27: vs. Indiana

Thu. 29: vs. LA Lakers

Fri. 30: vs. LA Clippers



HILARY BROWN / OREDIGGER

Of Pakistan and Lesser Evils

President Musharraf's Martial Law, Suspension of Constitution Puts U.S. in a Bind

Josh Elliott
Business Manager

Anyone who has taken one of Dave Marr's classes knows that "the world is not ideal." Though Dr. Marr applies this phrase in the context of solids, liquids, and gases, the statement applies beautifully to foreign policy. Quite often, it is necessary for the United States to deal with unsavory characters and to make decisions that have no clear positive outcome. The current situation in Pakistan illustrates this point nicely.

This situation puts the United States in a difficult position. The U.S. essentially has two choices: support Musharraf, or condemn him. Each option has potential drawbacks, as well as benefits, and underscores the possibility.

The chief reason for supporting Musharraf is that he has been an ally of the United States in a region where allies are few and far between. Though he has not always pursued those the U.S. deems "terrorists" with the zeal the Bush administration would like, Musharraf has done considerably more than other leaders in the region. The second major reason to support Musharraf is that the

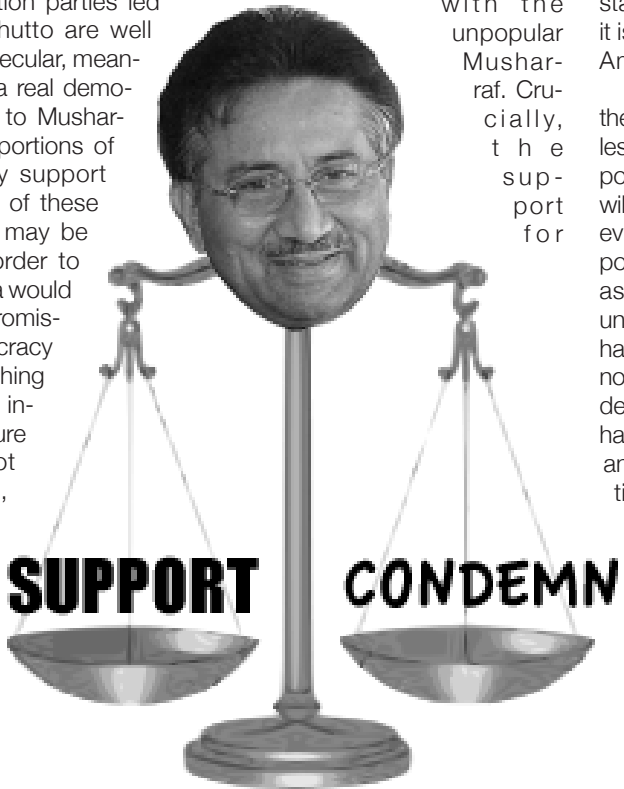
opposition parties appear unlikely or unable to form a stable government capable of extracting Pakistan from chaos. Musharraf commands the support of the army, which could assist in a stabilization effort, however brutal and unpalatable that might be. Additionally, tensions with India have eased somewhat under Musharraf's leadership, which is a huge boon.

The disadvantages of supporting Musharraf are equally compelling, if not more so. First, what Musharraf is doing is clearly undemocratic, and risks making the U.S. appear complicit in supporting a dictatorial regime. The ultimate effect of that action could be to deliver Pakistan into the hands of extremists, or at the very least harden the hearts of the average Pakistani to the United States. Second, it is entirely possible that Musharraf cannot maintain the stability of Pakistan without a severe crackdown. A crackdown of that nature could send Pakistan into a tailspin of instability. This is unacceptable, given that Pakistan is one of the few nations on earth with an acknowledged nuclear weapons program.

However, condemning Musharraf is not necessarily a panacea. There are advantages to be gained

from condemnation, to be certain. The opposition parties led by Sharif and Bhutto are well established and secular, meaning that there is a real democratic alternative to Musharraf's rule. Large portions of Pakistani society support one or the other of these leaders, so they may be able to restore order to Pakistan. America would also avoid compromising its pro-democracy principles, something that could prove invaluable in the future when dealing not only with Pakistan, but the Middle East as a whole.

Yet, the opposition parties have their downsides. Both parties have proven themselves to be largely inept at running a country, and both have been removed by military leaders after leading Pakistan to the edge of the abyss. Benazir Bhutto has also lost credibility



COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

the American administration is also likely to decrease with either party. With the Taliban resurgent along Pakistan's borders, and

by dealing with the unpopular Musharraf. Crucially, the support for

America unable to go into Pakistan's NWFP for political reasons, it is critical that Islamabad support America's anti-Taliban efforts.

What, then, is to be drawn from these choices? The most important lesson is that when making foreign policy decisions, America must be willing to settle for the "lesser of two evils" in many situations. So often, politicians speak of foreign policy as if there is a clear, definitive, unendingly benign outcome to be had. The reality is that the world is not ideal; nearly every foreign policy decision involves some manner of hardship for both the United States and the other country(s) in question. We should try to mitigate the hardships, certainly, but we can't avoid creating them. Americans must be willing to accept these consequences, and bear the responsibility for them when things go south on occasion. Remember this the next time a politician is telling you he or she has the answers to America's foreign policy woes. Remember this the next time you promote your preferred foreign policy option. We don't want to shake hands with the devil. But we don't always have a choice.

Duffy's Corner: Creating a Culture of Failure

Kevin Duffy
Content Manager

The classes are different for every major; the results are the same. They lurk in the flowchart of every undergrad, providing an ominous notion of the merciless battle ahead. Unknown to the average student, though, the subject matter is not the root cause of the ensuing struggle to pass with a "C." Rather, an antiquated teaching method, remnant of Mines' culture through the 80's and 90's, is the culprit. A method which does not stimulate learning, aims to demoralize students, and fosters an environment of elitism. Although Mines had largely strayed from this model, the current administration must work to extinguish the remaining pockets of such backwardness in the university.

Sitting in an afternoon lecture, a student three rows ahead seemed to sum up the problem in a jovial graphic tee of assumingly his own making. It read, "Class average 34%, High score 78%, My score 56%. Success." The good-humored nature of the shirt only served to mask the true feelings of resentment at the system that has made the statement a reality.

Most high school seniors contemplating their in-state choices of universities assume that Mines' reputation comes solely from the difficult nature of an applied sci-

ence education. This is nonsense. While applied science does inherently contain a level of difficulty, it is not distinguishable from an honest pursuit of knowledge in the liberal arts, social sciences or business fields. Most people, especially Mines students themselves, make this erroneous assumption because their only meter of comparison are their intoxicated and stumbling acquaintances at such fine places of higher education as UNC and CU. Where, then, does such difficulty and reputation derive from?

The culture of the institution is based upon the pretense of personal autonomy taken to the extreme. The warped form of self-reliance serves to isolate professors and students in a gridlocked struggle to achieve. The system rewards individual study fanatics and professors who pride themselves on not teaching and testing on the same material. This does not promote an environment of cooperative learning, an exploration of knowledge, and application that a distinguished university should pride itself on fostering.

The manifestation of this culture may seem exaggerated, but is only too real for students undergoing the treatment. Professors that ascribe to the methodology are fundamentally averse to teaching course material in a logical, practical, and applicable

manner. This might involve lecture after lecture of copying equations and talking points straight from the text, spending entire periods going over homework concepts from week-old assignments or maybe just a forcefully dry rapport with their pupils.

The lectures are then supposed to prepare the student for exams specifically intended to force a class average well below the 50% mark. Replete with problems and concepts never before seen in any lecture, text, or fraternity exam archive, the exams serve to remind the students how little value the department assigns to them when compared with the prestigiously tenured faculty of the institution.

"But fear not," says the intrepid graduate student/TA/perpetrator of institutional dogma, "the class will be curved, you will not fail." The advice is appreciated but not helpful, even the truest cretin understands this fact and is not afraid of failing for that very reason. Additionally, the most stringent professor also knows that they will not fail the entire class, but instead pass almost every one of their students. This realization represents the epitome of irony; Orwellian doublethink at its finest.

The question is then forced as to why students are meant to think, feel, and believe they are failing throughout the whole semester

when in fact they will emerge with a passing letter grade. The answer lies in nothing more than the administration's justification of the culture of autonomous struggle. Courses that subscribe to this methodology are difficult for the sake of being difficult; attempting to demoralize students who just can't "cut it," so to speak.

Thankfully there are, and have been for some time, level-headed administrators, professors, and student advocates on campus that understand this counter-productive truth in the system. For this, the current students of CSM can again count their blessings that the entire institution no longer resembles that horror scenario, as it did in past decades.

Almost all freshmen, and many sophomores reading this, may not even be able to relate to the experience yet, as classes in the lower divisions are no longer taught in this manner. Notable exceptions include introductory Chemistry courses after Dr. Pavelich's retirement in the fall of 2005. Even then, the administration has been quick to respond to abysmal levels of teaching in a first semester freshman course.

The real remnants of the methodology of failure lurk in upper division courses. Students face the disillusionment after having proved that they can handle "tough" material in CSM's self-proclaimed "weeder"

courses. Students face the humiliation once they finally reach courses where the subject matter alone draws their interest. Students face the cynicism after they feel they have given so much to this school. Consistent but disheartening, this is the call sign of the experience.

The current student body must feel empowered to demand change. Do not feel that you are stupid, do not feel you are alone, and do not feel that your concerns are unwarranted. The university exists to serve the needs of the students and, unfortunately, the needs of the students are not being met. Demand answers from your professors and the department heads that excuse their performance. Give damning evaluations at semesters end; attach five paragraph essays to the back if you must. Address your grievances to Academic Services; let them know that you are paying for an education, not a one-way ticket on the rollercoaster to Hell.

Change will not come easy, nor will it appear over the course of your personal tenure at Mines. Do it for your future brothers and sisters of CSM that will, one day, grace the halls of Brown, Alderson, and Meyer as you do now. May they inherit an institutional culture of success, creativity, and leadership, sorely barren from the experience of today.

The *Real* First Thanksgiving

Ricky Walker
Staff Writer

Ahh!! Stores are cleaning up after the Christmas rush, credit cards are maxed out, and it seems everyone will scream next time they hear another Christmas Carol on the radio. This can only mean one thing: Thanksgiving is over and it is finally Christmas time.

Before we say our final good-byes to the holiday of Thanksgiving, I would like to do something that is not done very often: I would like to look at the first origins of Thanksgiving. I'm not talking about the Pilgrims and Indians having a feast. No, I'm talking about the day that Thanksgiving was first declared.

For the wealth of knowledge that there is about the pilgrims, there is an unfortunate lack of knowledge on the origin of the holiday of Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving was officially declared for the first time by George Washington in a proclamation given on October 14th, 1789.

I would like to devote the remainder of this piece to the separation of church and state.

In modern times, it seems that any mention of God in a government funded building is met with angry cries of, "Separation of Church and State!" The mere use of church buildings for voting locations brings a wave of fury from those who believe that the founding fathers intended to have a secular government. The presence of the Ten Commandments outside of a courtroom brings lawsuits

claiming that the court is promoting a religion. The movement has simply grown out of control.

For how much it is quoted, surprisingly few know where the phrase 'separation of church and state' actually comes from. It does not come from the Bill of Rights. Rather, it comes from a set of letters written in 1802 between Thomas Jefferson and the Danbury Baptists association in Connecticut. The Danbury Baptists were worried that religious liberty was a 'favor granted' rather than an inalienable right. Jefferson responded telling them not to worry

"Surprisingly few know where the phrase 'separation of church and state' actually comes from."

From this statement, we see the results that we have today: students in high schools being banned from even speaking about their religion in a speech.

As an example of this, I cite a story that happened to a valedictorian at Lewis Palmer High School in the spring of 2006. Her diploma was withheld from her after she mentioned Jesus in a commencement speech. She was only allowed to receive her diploma after she apologized to the entire school district. God Bless America.

Much of the problem comes from the misconception that a

'secular government' is the same as a 'neutral government.' This is not the case. Secularism is as much of a belief system as any religion. The belief that there is no God is exactly that -- a belief, and thus secularism is not a neutral opinion. The only way to have a 'neutral government' is to have an indifferent government -- a government that allows its citizens to partake in religion however they see fit so long as it does not break the law and so long as it does not impede on another's civil liberties. Not allowing a public school student to speak of Jesus at a commencement ceremony destroys both of these ideals. It promotes a secular agenda as well as impedes on the student's freedom to partake in her religion.

The simple truth is this: Religion exists, and so long as it does not break the law or impede on another's civil liberties, there is nothing wrong with it. There is nothing wrong with saying a prayer in a government building. There is nothing wrong with having an engraving of the Ten Commandments outside of a courtroom. There is nothing wrong with speaking about Jesus at a graduation. Not only is there nothing wrong with these things, but to make effort to stop these things is an infringement on our freedom of religion and is unconstitutional.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I was required to attend a reading by George Saunders for my Nature and Human Values class. I found him very vulgar and offensive. He portrayed the world as a very grotesque, base, and horrific place to live. He was using the literary techniques of satire and over dramatization to show a truth in our society; however his portrayal of our lifestyle was far more vulgar than anything I see or hear in day-to-day life, or even in the movies. The worst part about it was that he made it sound like everybody thought the way his characters thought and if you didn't think that way you were wrong. He knew he was crossing the line with his vulgar talk because he apologized several times for what he was about to say before continuing his reading; if you have to apologize before you speak you should keep your mouth shut. Beyond being just sexual and violent he made fun of different races. One of the characters in his story was daydreaming about how he was going to have sex with this girl walking down the street and his daydream was set in a bean field in Mexico. Saunders went on for at least five minutes about his character's fantasy and in doing so he thoroughly made fun of the entire culture of Mexico. I was sitting next to two of my friends who happen to be Mexican and I could tell by the looks on their faces that they were angry.

I am very outraged that the school brought in such an offensive speaker. It is also with my tuition money that the school brought in this speaker. I would like it very much if the school would bring in speakers that are inoffensive, especially if it is required for some classes that students are in attendance.

-Carl Hesse

Dear Editor,

In response to Sustainably Minded Student, I would like to share my experience from a few weeks ago. To recount, a cultural anthropology class performed a "recycling culture" study by emptying 3 or 4 bags of trash on Kafadar and waiting with clipboards for other students to pick it up.

I only speak for myself, but when I saw litter all over Kafadar, it meant that noon disc was canceled and I went back inside to do more homework. If I was counted in the study, I was most assuredly as apathetic, but in reality, I recycle whenever I can and I pick up trash on a pretty regular basis.

For our budding sociologists, I have a few suggestions. Always match form and function and consider the validity of your data.

To SMS, your negative characterization of our entire student body was regrettable and I hope that in the future you choose to motivate people without shame.

-Mike Raevsky

Figuring Out the Balance Extracurricular Life at Mines

Name Withheld By Request

It had all been fine up until that point. "Can you please be quiet?" decried my roommate, in her sniveling way. It was midnight, on the brink between Monday and Tuesday. I was humming very softly at less than 2 dB, which cannot be heard through organic wax earplugs.

Something in me had snapped. Perhaps it was the combination of going to a conference several states away in less than 24 hours, attempting to run a meeting, missing George Saunders that same night because I was on a last-minute one-hour conference call to get everything ready...

I couldn't have told you what the exact reason was. It was probably a combination of all of the above reasons, if not more.

Throwing on a coat, I rushed out of the sorority and peeled out so fast it was a wonder that Mines campus police didn't pull me over for driving at twice the speed limit. I had reached the tipping point, where one more straw placed on the camel's back was enough to drive me to a nervous breakdown at 60 mph.

There are times when it is time to figure out where you stand with all of the organizations where you play an active role, school and your major, and life in general. I would highly recommend at least a biannual review of where you are.

Are you with the wrong organization?

It's better late than never to get out of something which does

not enhance who you are, is not in alignment with your values, or both. Please note that feelings do not always reflect reality, and that all of your suspicions should be confirmed by a non-biased friend who is not a part of said organization.

Do you feel drained after a one-hour meeting?

Do you feel that you are chained down to politics which are not supported by action?

Do feel that there are no checks and balances within the organization?

Does being part of this organization increase your chances of a heart attack in 20 years?

Is Zoloft a regular part of your diet based on involvement in this organization?

Do you support Rodriguez's decision to not sign on with the Yankees again?

Is there an inverse correlation between your semester GPA and involvement in this organization?

Would you still be friends with these people if you walked away from the organization today?

Are there any opportunities for regional or national involvement, because you do not agree with the local political climate of your organization and have you fully explored them?

Are the missions and values of said organization not exemplified by the actions of the membership, are these actions in direct conflict with your own values, or both?

If you agree with 5 or more of the above statements, and you can say that this organization has had a negative effect on you personally, then it is time to leave.

Cannabis Reform?

JT Foss
Staff Writer

Earlier this month, Denver voters passed a measure to make the use and possession of marijuana the city's lowest law-enforcement priority, indicating that cannabis reform supporters are gaining momentum. The question is, however, is it in our best interests to lift the prohibition?

Parties in opposition to the legalization of marijuana present a strong case, referencing potential societal damage as well as the numerous health risks involved with the consumption of the drug. As it stands, cannabis is categorized as a Schedule 1 drug, which means that it has a high potential for abuse, no currently accepted medical usage, and is unsafe to use with or without medical supervision.

Cannabis is arguably a gateway drug, which leads users to experiment with more destructive substances such as heroin or methamphetamines. Statistical evidence also shows that marijuana has a high potential for abuse, which results in detrimental societal effects: increased crime rates, more children in foster homes, and inhibited productivity (it causes lethargy and lack of ambition).

Heavy usage of the drug also increases the occurrence of schizophrenia and other forms of psychosis; it increases predisposition to mental illness, and a commonly accepted paradigm generally associates the smoking of marijuana with lung cancer.

Government officials assert that marijuana cannot be legalized until sufficient scientific and medical research has been conducted in favor of its safety and medical applica-

tions. However, this research cannot be conducted in the United States due to the drug's Schedule 1 status.

Supporters of cannabis reform provide compelling evidence as well. Research shows that marijuana has medical applications including the treatment of glaucoma, mitigation of nausea and hunger suppression in cancer patients, resolving tics in patients afflicted by Tourette's syndrome and obsessive compulsive disorder, as well as the alleviation of muscle spasms in victims of multiple sclerosis.

Cannabis can also be cultivated as hemp, which provides an environmentally responsible alternative to products such as paper, plastics, and cosmetics. Because it can be grown with few pesticides and converts CO₂ to oxygen very quickly, hemp offers methods of achieving a "Green future."

In 2005, nearly \$46 billion of government funds were spent in the war on drugs, a large portion of that devoted to enforcing cannabis prohibition laws as well as incarcerating individuals guilty of possession and distribution. By legalizing marijuana and implementing excise taxes (as found on cigarettes), the government would generate positive revenue instead of losing billions-ultimately keeping more money in the American taxpayer's wallet.

According to government statistics, more than 500,000 people die every year due to the use of alcohol and tobacco, whereas there are no documented cases of death from cannabis consumption (more people die every year due to caffeine). Tobacco is the main culprit in the vast majority of lung cancer deaths, while evidence linking marijuana smoke inhalation to lung cancer is currently in controversy.

Neither tobacco nor alcohol have widespread medical applications, yet they're both legal in the United States. Nicotine is extremely addictive and the consequences of alcoholism are catastrophic to an individual's life. Dependence on marijuana is largely psychological, and in magnitude, pales in comparison to nicotine or alcohol. While evidence shows that the use of cannabis impairs driving abilities, there are very few cases of vehicular accidents in which the faulty party was under the influence of marijuana but not alcohol.

A 2007 study conducted in the UK ranked 20 common drugs based on their harm to the user, potential for addiction, and societal repercussions. Not surprisingly, alcohol and tobacco ranked in the top 10 (following drugs like heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamines). Shockingly though, cannabis, ecstasy, and LSD were ranked in the latter half. This doesn't exactly conform to the commonly held beliefs regarding these drugs, but it does indicate that maybe our society should rethink the war on drugs.

Because marijuana cultivation is relatively easy, "weed" will be smoked by rebellious teens (as well as many others) regardless of its illegal status. Legalization of cannabis would likely cause negligible damage to society and benefit a greater amount of people.

I think Denver voters have the right idea; we've clung to our ancient paradigms long enough. I believe that recreational and especially habitual usage of the drug is unsafe and unwise, but the medical, environmental, and financial advantages of removing the prohibition vastly outweigh the benefits of keeping it illegal.

Fool's Gold

“Wanna get some picnic baskets?”

A Message From Doctor Love, DDS

Doctor Love
Love Doctor

Ladies and Gentlemen: Boys and Girls of all ages: Come one, come all. There is a serious debate that we need to discuss! The Colorado School of Mines is known for its Engineering, Prestige, and boy/girl ratio. This last and very grievous fact is always floating around six to one and with that comes a steady price: A lack of gender social interaction.

Of course you see that cute girl in your MEL lab, but do you ever find the words to say? Of course you notice the cute boy in Physics, but you wouldn't dare say a word because he could be your next stalker! What are we to do at this socially backwards school?!?

The answer is simple, my friends, listen to Doctor Love. Doctor Love has had many years experience of studying male/female relationships and interaction. He has extensively covered the rich, the poor, the ugly, the beautiful, the smelly, the freshly scented, the young, the old, the football stud, the nerd, the popular girl, and the girl that uses artistic expression while not conforming to society's rules. He has many PhD's and outstanding warrants to back up his psychological profile.

Without further or due, I give you Doctor Love:

Ok, ladies and gentlemen, let's get one thing settled right off the bat: Next Saturday night, you're not going home with anyone. It

won't happen. You simply won't go to the party, get drunk, and end up in a dorm room making whoopee while her roommate pretends to be asleep. It's just not happening!

Given that, here's what WILL happen: You will get shut down by many guys and many girls. You will try to make a conversation with someone who looks interesting, hot, or your best shot for the night, but you'll quickly find the dating world is full of disappointment, despair, and many more dis- words Dane Cook can't even think of!

When you date, you are on an interview. How do you get hired for the job? Make your interview interesting and thought provoking. How do you make your interview interesting? You can use

one of three strategies: (These have been tested and approved many times by Doctor Love) 1) Ask questions. 2) Provoke anger and agreement. 3) Go for it.

1) Ask questions. The strategy is very simple. If you ask a guy or girl questions about what they are currently talking about, you're going to get a first date. By asking questions, it not only seems like you care, but you'll start to care by processing the conversation and looking at it from many angles. Otherwise, they could just be answering your questions.

2) Provoke anger and agreement. This strategy is more complex for those that can handle it. If a guy or girl is talking about subject A and how they “love A”

and “A is for everyone,” make an immediate argument against A. They will retort angrily and you will respond, “Ohhhhhh, I thought you meant [subject A] was bad because of [think on your feet]! No, I totally see what you're saying. You're right, too.” This will get you the first date almost guaranteed.

3) Go for it. The simplest move of them all, if you feel a spark and he or she is giving you the “smile and quickly look away” move, lean in and kiss them. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't, but it was worth a shot.

This college needs a lot of work on the dating scene, so expect more to come. If a strategy worked for you, let Doctor Love know and he'll guide you further.

Buyer Beware: PS3



Greg Smith
Conscious Consumer

I bought a Playstation 3 the other day and I'm extremely disappointed. Chief Executive Officer of Sony, Howard Stringer, himself promised me complete and total “backwards compatibility” with my old games. Buyer

Beware!! All lies!! It doesn't work with Nintendo 64 or Gameboy games whatsoever. What the hell Howy? There is not even a slot for my Pokemon Snap or Conker's Bad Fur Day cartridges, let alone the controller or memory card. Forget the PS3's awesome lineup of games like Uncharted: Drakes

Fortune, Guitar Hero III, or Assassin's Creed, I want Mario Kart, James Bond 007 and NFL Blitz!

I even took the unit back to Target and got a replacement. Regrettable and frustrating to the smallest of minds, the new one is broken too. For shame, Sony, for shame.

Invisible Children!!! Children of the Corn React!

Tim Weilert
Invisibilologist

The nation of Uganda is currently struggling with numerous problems such as war, disease, poverty and the issue of “Invisible Children.” Fortunately, students at CSM are becoming involved.

Members of humanitarian engineering organizations have been trying to help the African nation both with facility and educational matters. Educators in Uganda are concerned with safety and curriculum.

Clean, reliable drinking water is a necessity and Mines students are engineering cost effective ways to provide it. Spray-on bulletproofing has also been developed for use on buildings and workers. With all this in mind, war and water are not the most pressing problems.

H.G. Wells described a process in his book The Invisible Man, by which people could become invisible by changing their refrac-

tive indexes to match that of air. The Lord's Resistance Army of Uganda has been spraying children with a chemical that makes them invisible to the human eye. This atrocity was the subject of 2003 documentary Invisible Children.

Researches in the physics department at CSM have developed special “U.V. Goggles” which allow the wearer to see outside of the visible spectrum. Teachers in Uganda will be equipped with these goggles and should be able to see the children. Only then will they be able to teach the students with the curriculum developed by CSM's humanitarian engineers.

In addition to being able to see “the unseen,” the special goggles have a “future” button which allows one to look into the future. They have already been useful to society by allowing physics majors to buy lottery tickets, bet on sporting events and foil assassination attempts.

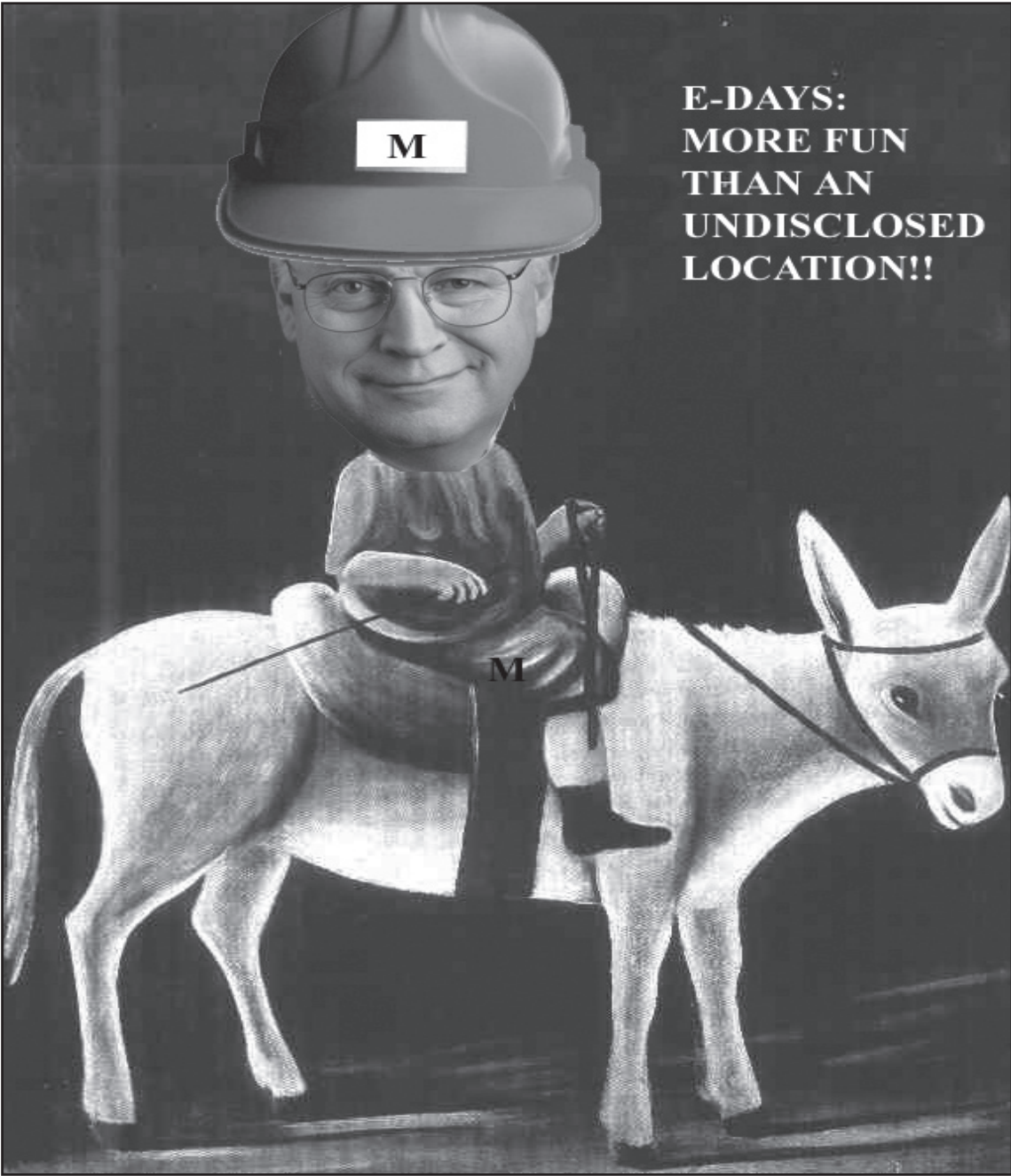


COURTESY WIKIMEDIA

Invisible Children- These vivacious children are seen playing a game of touch football introduced by a CSM student.

MAC Announces 2008 E-Days Theme

JurE-Days, Eddie MurphE-Days, and S-Days among the runner ups



Dick and Blaster- The proposed T-shirt design for the 2008 Dick ChenE-Days in April.

College or God?

A Spiritual Journey into Pews and Calculus

Mike Stone
Religious Correspondent

College is the single greatest enemy of organized religion. Or so it appears that way. Here at the School of Mines, we learn plenty of facts, figures, equations and systems. All that knowledge can arguably tamper with a religious mind.

I was raised Catholic, but should I still consider myself one? Instead of God, Jesus and the holy ghost, F=ma is my father, evolution is my son, and beer is my holy spirit. Put those three together and you've got a party...in Huntsville, Kentucky of course.

Let's resort back to simple analogies as they are useful in college, church, work and the bedroom. I'm the doctor

and you're the naughty nur - wait. That was the wrong analogy. God is the Shepherd and we are his flock. The sheep are learning how to read. Pretty soon, they'll figure out they don't need the Shepherd. (Unless the weather is bad or there's a wolf among

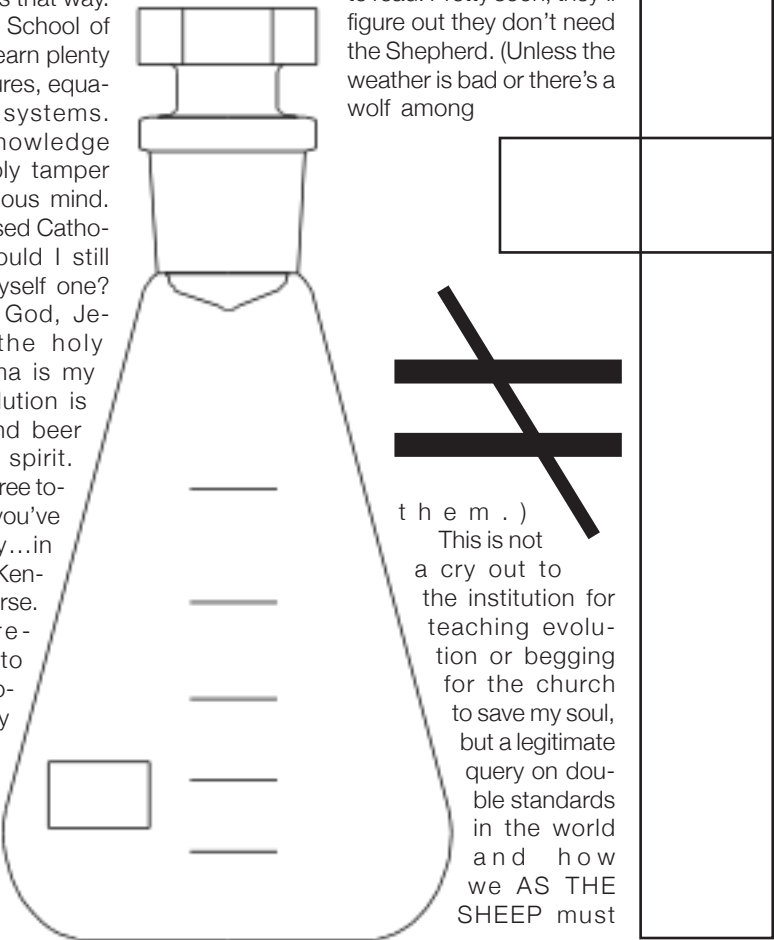
choose the right path... and watch out for horny rednecks.

Voltaire once said, "If there was no god, it would be necessary to invent him." Scientifically speaking, we're proving god wrong with each passing day. Even so,

no one can deny the belief in being a part of something greater than you for whatever reason. My reason: free wine.

With that, I have determined the following belief: God put us here in one form or another and from that, we evolved to be the caring, compassionate, and loving human beings we are today.

In other news, War and death continues!



Fool's Gold YouTube Videos of the Week

This week's videos are created by Mines students and feature the School in two very different ways. Be sure to check them out!

"Colorado School of Mines M"
SUBMITTED BY BEN WEILERT

"CSM Lightning Tour"
-Mike Stone



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